

The Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS)

Factsheet



The DUNS number is the unique identifier by which CVE applications for the Veterans First Contracting Program are processed.

ISSUE:

What is a DUNS number and what are the requirements for a DUNS number with respect to the CVE Verification Program?

DISCUSSION:

The Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number is a nine-digit number issued by Dun & Bradstreet to a single business entity. The DUNS number is also the unique identifier used by CVE to identify firms applying for and participating in the Veterans First Contracting Program. The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act is the source guidance which necessitates firms desiring to participate in VA's Veterans First Contracting Program having to obtain a DUNS number from Dun & Bradstreet. Failure to obtain and maintain a DUNS number identified with the specific firm listed in your firm's VetBiz VIP profile may result in a withdrawal of a firm's application for verification or verification status cancellation of a firm already verified and listed in the VetBiz Vendor Information Pages (VIP) database. For business purposes, a firm may have several DUNS



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numbers (e.g. DUNS for multiple states or different DUNS numbers for each sub company within a firm), which is an ordinary and customary practice. However, for purposes of the CVE verification process, a firm may only rely on one such DUNS number as an identifier for the VetBiz VIP database.

For additional information on navigating the verification process, please consult a [PTAC Counselor](#), utilize CVE's [Verification Assistance Program](#), read the [Verification Assistance Briefs](#), and utilize the [Verification Self-Assessment Tool](#). Visit <http://www.VetBiz.gov> for more information about CVE and the Verification Process.



The Center of Verification and Evaluation

(866) 584-2344
Monday - Friday
8:00am to 8:00pm (Eastern)

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